

# Behold a Simple, Tender Babe

*for SATB chorus a cappella*  
Original music by Peter Bloesch

Duration: ca. 3:40

Words: Robert Southwell (ca. 1561-1595)

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## Dedication: For Matthew Curtis of Choral Tracks

**Performance note:** Wherever there are high "B's" in the phrase (as in m. 3 and 8, etc.), be sure not to accent these notes, but rather make them a smooth part of the overall phrase.

**Gently flowing and very sustained** ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$ )

**SOPRANO**

*mp*

Be - hold a sim - ple, ten - der babe \_\_\_\_\_ In freez - ing win ter

**PIANO**  
(for rehearsal only)

*mp* smoothly throughout

**S.**

night \_\_\_\_\_ In home - ly man - ger tremb - ling lies; A - las! a pit - eous

**PNO.**

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7

S. *poco*

sight, a - las! a pit - eous sight.

PNO.

10

S. *mp*

The inns are full, no man will yield. This lit - tle pil - grim

A. *p*

Ah,

T. *p*

Ah, ah,

PNO. *mp*

*p*

14

S. *poco*

bed; But forced is he with sim - ple beasts In crib to shroud his head, in

A. *p*

ah, ah, ah,

T. *p*

ah, ah,

PNO. *p*

18

S. *mp cantabile & very smoothly*  
crib to shroud his head. De - spise him not for ly - ing there: First,

A. *mp cantabile & very smoothly*  
De - spise him not for ly - ing there: First,

T. *mp cantabile & very smoothly*  
ah, De - spise him not for ly - ing there: First

B. *mp cantabile & very smoothly*  
De - spise him not for ly - ing there: First

PNO. *mp*

22

S. *poco*  
what he is in - quire: An o-rient pearl is of - ten found In depth of dirt-y

A. *poco*  
what he is in - quire: An o-rient pearl is of - ten found In depth of dirt-y

T. *poco*  
what he is in - quire: An o-rient pearl is of - ten found In depth of dirt-y

B. *poco*  
what he is in - quire: An o-rient pearl, of - ten found In depth of dirt-y

PNO. *poco*

26

S. mire, in depth of dirt - y mire.

A. mire, in depth of dirt - y mire.

T. mire, in depth of dirt - y mire.

B. mire, in depth of dirt - y mire. *mp* Weigh

PNO. *mp*

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30

S. *pp* *Mm,* *mm,*

A. *pp* *Mm,* *mm,*

T. *pp* *Mm,* *mm,*

B. *cantabile* not his crib, his wood-en dish, Nor scorn his poor a - bode; Weigh

PNO. *mp*

34

S. *mm.* *p*

A. *mm.* *p*

T. *mm.* *p*

B. *mm.* *p*

not his moth-er's poor at - tire Nor Jo-seph's sim-ple robe, nor Jo-seph's sim - ple

PNO.

38

S. *pp* *p dolce* Slightly faster (♩ = ca. 63)

A. *pp* *p dolce*

T. *pp* *p dolce*

B. *p* *pp* *p dolce*

robe. a Prin-ce's

This sta - ble is a Prin-ce's

This sta - ble, Prin ce's

This sta - ble is a Prin-ce's

PNO.